

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL MILAN

UNCLAS STATE 211098

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, EFIN, IT

SUBJECT: SEC INVESTIGATOR HOTEL BILL

REF: MILAN 1579

1. DEPARTMENT HAS CONTACTED KRAUT RE UNPAID \$48 HOTEL BILL. KRAUT ADMITS STOPPING PAYMENT ON PERSONAL CHECK FOR THIS AMOUNT WHICH HE SAID HE WROTE DURING DISPUTE WITH HOTEL MANAGEMENT OVER INTERNATIONAL PHONE CALL TO THE US. DESPITE HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO PLACE CALL AT CHEAPEST INTERNATIONAL RATE, KRAUT RECALLED, HOTEL WENT AHEAD AND PLACED CALL AT MORE EXPEDITIOUS, BUT CONSIDERABLY HIGHER RATE, RESULTING IN \$48 BILL FOR WHAT KRAUT REMEMBERS AS A SEVEN OR EIGHT MINUTE CONVERSATION.

2. KRAUT CLAIMS HOTEL DID SO TO MAXIMIZE ITS PROFIT EVEN THOUGH CHEAPER RATE AVAILABLE TO HOTEL PATRONS AND UPON DISCOVERING THIS WHEN LEAVING HOTEL HE WROTE THE CHECK IN QUESTION TO AVOID MISSING HIS PLANE. KRAUT SAYS HE IS PREPARED TO PAY REASONABLE SUM FOR PHONE BILL IF HOTEL WILL AGREE. KRAUT CONSIDERS PROPER AMOUNT TO BE IN THE RANGE OF \$12.

3. IN ANY EVENT, DEPARTMENT IS IN NO POSITION TO JUDGE

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THE MERITS OF THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE HOTEL AND KRAUT.
THUS, THE CONGEN MAY WISH TO PASS KRAUT'S VIEW ON TO THE
HOTEL, AND SUGGEST THAT THE HOTEL MANAGEMENT GET IN
TOUCH DIRECTLY WITH KRAUT TO SETTLE THE MATTER. ROBINSON

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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